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[Redacted]  
March 8, 1968

Capt. C. L. Burbage  
COMNAVAIRPAC Chief of Staff  
N.A.S. North Island  
San Diego, California 92135

Dear Capt. Burbage:

This letter is to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the assistance and cooperation of your office and staff during the recently completed exercise Blue Gull IV. The entire operation was a smooth and highly productive exercise as 4 pilots achieved operational ready status and did it in an hour less than the time allotted. This accomplishment is a tribute to Capt. Flanagan and the professional pride of the entire Constellation crew. Every facility of the ship was made available to us even though she was heavily committed to refresher training. Special notice should be made of the efforts of Cdr. Sample without whose assistance the operation could not have succeeded.

During Blue Gull IV LCDR. Carl R. Erie's performance was outstanding and he is now considered highly qualified to work with this project. I hope that he will not be needed, however, it is a valuable asset to our organization to have him available.

I wish to extend an open invitation for you to visit our project complex. Please give me a call when you are available and I will send an aircraft to pick you up.

Again, my sincerest thanks.

Very respectfully,

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